After rescinding the said order the prices of molasses vary from State to State and even from Sugar mill to Sugar mill and hence no specific price on national basis can be found at this moment.

The controlled basic price of alcohol under the Ethyl Alcohol (Price Control) Order, 1971 was as follows:

1	2
1. Absolute Alcohol conform to ISI standard No. 321-1952 marked for equivalent volume at 100 percent V/V strength.	Rs. 3941.30 per KL
2. Rectified spirit conforming to ISI standard No. 323-1959 marked for equivalent volume 100 per cent V/V strength.	Rs. 3583/- per KL.
3. Rectified spirit conforming to ISI standard No. 323-1959 marked for equivalent volume at 94.68 percent V/V strength.	Rs. 3392.38 per KL.

Delicensing Pharmaceutical Industry

1346. SHRI PASUMPON THA. MIRUTTINAN:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pharmaceutical industries were left out of deregulation process in July, 1991 when the Government came out with new Industrial Policy if so, what were the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to delicense the pharmaceutical industry and are working out modalities for deregulation and decontrol thereof as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 18th July, 1993;

(c) if so, by when, and whether the prices of essential drugs would be allowed to be determined by free market forces;

(d) whether Government propose to formulate special distribution scheme so that the essential drugs are made available to public hospitals and other voluntary institutions at subsidised/cheaper rates through voluntary support of the companies; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the steps, if any, taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e) Yes Sir. Medicines unlike most other industrial products have a direct bearing on the health care and, therefore, are essential in nature. The major objective of the Drug Policy 1986 is to ensure availability of quality products in abundant quantities at reasonable prices. A review of Drug Policy 1986 had been initiated even before the announcement of the new Industrial Policy in July 1991 and a background note for discussion on the Review of Drug Policy 1986 has been placed on the Table of the House on 12.8.1992.

Violation of provisions of DPCO

1347. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1222 given in Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 1993 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while increasing prices of 55 bulk drugs in August/September, 1991 it was assumed that consumption norms CIF import price and other costs have remained the same after BICP study;

(b) whether it is a fact that this assumption was wrong and was made to help the producers;

(c) whether it is a fact that the consumer interests were altogether ignored, if so, who was responsible for this lapse; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that several producers of bulk drugs got unintended benefits running into crores of rupees and what steps have been taken to fix responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) The prices of 55 indigenously produced controlled bulk drugs were revised on 30th August, 25th September, 30th September and 9th October, 1991 due to the impact on input costs on account of the change in exchange rate of rupee against major foreign currencies announced in July, 1991 on the basis of the available cost data as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1987. This step was taken by Government to avoid shortages.

Price of Bulk Drugs

1348. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the bulk drugs and formulations prices of which have been increased or decreased after Ist January, 1993;

(b) what were their earlier and revised prices and what was the percentage increase of decrease in each case and what were the reasons for such an increase;

(c) whether it is a fact that BICP tailors the consumption norms of major inputs and oberheads to give price escalations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the details of cases where BICP estimates were found wrong and unsatisfactory during the last three years and what action was taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The prices of indigenously produced price controlled bulk drugs have been revised in 90 cases after Ist January, 1993. These prices have been notified from time to time in the Extraordinary Gazette of India, the copies of which are available in the Parliaments, whose prices have been revised after Ist January, 1993, the number runs into thousands and the time and labour involved in compiling such information will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved. The prices of these bulk drugs and formulations, have been notified from time to time in crease/decrease in input costs including those of imported materials and escalation is worked out in accordance with the escalation formula given by BICP in their cost-cum-technical study reports and other cost data.

(c) to (e) The prices of bulk drugs are fixed/revised by this Ministry on the basis of the examination of the cost-cum-technical studies conducted by BICP in accordance with the provisions laid down under the DPCO, 1987. The BICP is an expert body of the Government on this subject. BICP's report are inputs for the decision making process of price fixation and where considered necessary clarifications on the cost-cum-technical study, are sought from the BICP before fixing the prices.

Customs duty exemption to drugs Intermediates penultimates

1349. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of drugs whose intermediates and penultimates have been either exempted from custom duty or concessional custom duty has been granted during last five years, year-wise;

(b) what was the price of each bulk drug before duty exemption or concessional duty and what is its present pri-